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ORIGIN ARA-01

INFO	LOG-00	ACDA-17	AID-01	AMAD-01	A-01	CA-02	CCO-00
	CG-00	CIAE-00	SMEC-00	COME-00	CTME-00	DEAE-00	OASY-00
	DODE-00	DOEE-00	DOTE-00	ANHR-01	DS-00	EB-01	FAAE-00
	FBIE-00	H-01	IMMC-01	INM-02	TEDE-00	INR-00	INSE-00
	IO-16	L-01	ADS-00	M-00	NEA-01	NRCE-00	NSAE-00
	NSCE-00	OIC-02	OIS-01	OMB-01	PA-01	PM-00	PRS-01
	P-01	SCT-03	SNP-00	SP-00	SR-00	SSO-00	SS-00
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	DSCC-00	SSAH-00	PRME-01	DRL-09	G-00	/069R	

DRAFTED BY: ARA/BSC:D J COOKE:DJC
APPROVED BY: D:S ALBOT
ARA/BSC:D J PLANTY, ARA:M M SKOL, S/C K BODINE, S/S:MRLINO,
S/S-O:DJSTEWART

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE PRIORITY

RELEASED IN PART
B1, 1.4(B), 1.4(D)

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 216108

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS:GS: PREL, PTER, MARR, PHUM, MOPS, UN, HA, AR
SUBJECT: ACTING SECRETARY TALBOTT' JULY 29 MEEING WITH
ARGENTINE FOREIGN MINISER DI ELLA

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1. CONFIDENTIAL ENIRE EXT

2. SUMMARY: IN A CORDIAL NALF HOUR MEEING, FM DI ELLA
DISCUSSED THE RECENT TERRORIST BOMBING OF HE ISRAELI
ARGENTINE MUUAL ASSOCIATION, REAFFIRMED THAT ARGENTINA
WOULD PROVIDE TROOPS FOR THE HAITI MULTINAIONAL FORCE,
AND COMPLAINED HAT OUR "DEMOCRACY AND DEVELOPMENT CORPS"
PROPOSAL COMPETES WIH PRESIDENT MENEM'S "WHITE HELMETS"
INITIAIVE. THE ACTING SECRETARY OFFERED OUR FULL
SUPPOR IN HELPING FIND THE PERPERATORS OF THE JUNE 18
BOMBING, EXPRESSED HE HOPE THAT FORCE WOULD NOT BE
NECESSARY IN HAITI AND PROMISED TO LOOK INO THE "WHITE
HELMETS" PROPOSAL. END SUMMARY.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: NORMAN M BOUTON
CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL REASON: 1.4(B), 1.4(D)
DECLASSIFY AFTER: 11 AUG 2018
DATE/CASE ID: 18 DEC 2009 200906077

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3. MINISTER DI TELLA BEGAN THE MEETING BY DISCUSSING THE BOMBING OF THE ISRAELI ARGENTINE MUTUAL ASSOCIATION AND ARGENTINA'S REACTION. HE SAID THE FIRST REACTION WAS THAT "WE ALL HAD BEEN ATTACKED". THIS WAS IN CONTRAST O HE 1992 ISRAELI EMBASSY BOMBING WHERE THE TARGET WAS A FOREIGN COUNTRY AND NOT THE ARGENTINE JEWISH COMMUNITY. HE SECOND REACTION WAS THAT EVERYONE WAS JUDGING ARGENTINA. HIS CONCERN WAS ALLEVIATED BY HIS EXPRESSION OF SUPPORT FROM ISRAEL'S PRESIDENT AND WAS PUT IN PERSPECTIVE BY THE TWO BOMBINGS IN LONDON.

4. DI TELLA SAID HE HAD PRESENTED TWO PROPOSALS TO THE UN THAMORNING. THE FIRST PROPOSAL WAS TO AMEND THE
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VIENNA CONVENTION TO GIVE THE UN A ROLE IN CASES WHERE DIPLOMATS WERE IMPLICATED IN TERRORIST ACTS. IT PROVIDED THAT AFTER A COUNTRY ALLEGED A DIPLOMAT WAS INVOLVED IN A TERRORIST ACT, THE UN WOULD DETERMINE IF THE PERSON SHOULD BE STRIPPED OF HIS DIPLOMATIC IMMUNITY. DI TELLA ACKNOWLEDGED THE NEED FOR AN OUTSIDE NEUTRAL PARTY TO JUDGE THE IMMUNITY ISSUE. THIS WAS NO, HE SAID, AN ISSUE THAT COULD BE DECIDED UNILATERALLY. HE ALSO SAID THAT THE VIENNA CONVENTION SHOULD BE ALTERED TO PREVENT THE DEPARTURE OF DIPLOMATS FROM A COUNTRY UNTIL THE UN MAKES ITS DETERMINATION.

5. DI TELLA'S SECOND UN PROPOSAL WAS TO SET UP AN ANTITERRORISM UNIT PATTERNED AFTER THE UN'S ANTI-NARCOTICS UNIT. THIS WOULD NOT BE AN INTERNATIONAL POLICE SQUAD, BUT AN INTERNATIONAL CENTER TO SHARE INTELLIGENCE AND DEAL WITH THE PROBLEM. DI TELLA NOTED THAT THE UK AND RUSSIA HAD BOTH SAID THE PROPOSALS WERE WORTH CONSIDERING. THE ACTING SECRETARY SAID THAT DI TELLA'S PROPOSALS WERE NEW AND IMAGINATIVE, WHICH WAS WHAT THEY NEEDED. HE SAID THE US WOULD GIVE THESE IDEAS SERIOUS THOUGHT BEFORE PROVIDING OUR INITIAL RESPONSE.

6. DI TELLA THEN DESCRIBED THE STATE OF THE INVESTIGATION. HE SAID THERE WERE A NUMBER OF PROMINENT FIGURES, INCLUDING SECRETARY CHRISTOPHER, PRIME MINISTER RABIN AND PLO CHAIRMAN ARAFA, WHO HAD BLAMED HIZBALLAH AND THE IRANISANS.

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THE INVESTIGATING JUDGE HAS
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COUNSELED PATIENCE AND SAID MHA A BREAKTHROUGH MAY COME
IN THE NEAR FUTURE. DI TELLA SAID THAHE GOVERNMENT
WAS UNDER TREMENDOUS PRESSURE TO REACT, AND IS RYING TO
DECIDE HOW TO PROCEED.

7. DI TELLA EMPHASIZED THAT ARGENTINA WOULD NOT INDICT
ANYONEITHOUT EVIDENCE AND THE ADMINISTRAION WOULD NO
RESPASS ON HE JUDICIAL PROCESS.

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HE CONCLUDED BY SAYING THAT ARGENTINA COULD NOT
PERMIT A MHIRD INCIDENT LIKE THIS, SAYING IT WOULD BE A
RAGEDY IF HE JEWISH COMMUNITY WAS DRIVEN FROM ARGENTINA.

8. HE ACTING SECRETARY RESPONDED BY EXPRESSING HIS
CONDOLENCES OVER THE AMIA BOMBING. HE OFFERED DI MELLA
FULL US SUPPORT IN THE INVESTIGATION. HE ASKED IF DI
TELLA WAS SATISFIED WITH HE CURREN LEVEL OF US
COOPERATION AND ASKED WHAT MORE WE COULD DO. DI ELLA
EXPRESSED HIS SATISFACTION AND APPRECIATION WITH US
COOPERATION SO FAR.

9. TALBOTT SAID THAT WE WERE TOTALLY IN SYNC ON IRAN.
IRAN WAS A ROGUE STAE ALONG WITH LIBYA, IRAQ AND NORTH
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KOREA. MHE IRANIANS NAVE DEMONSTRAED A CONSISENT
PATTERN OF SUPPORTING TERRORISM. TALBOTT AND DI TELLA
AGREED THAT TERRORISM SHOULD BE ON HE AGENDA OF HE
SUMMIT OF THE AMERICAS. ALBOTT SAID THA THE US WOULD
BE SENDING THE NEW COORDINATOR FOR COUNTER-ERRORISM O
LATIN AMERICA IN THE NEAR FUTURE TO CONSULT ON ENHANCED
COOPERATION. HE POINTED OUT THAT SECRETARY CHRISOPHER
HAD CALLED THE FIGHT AGAINST TERRORISM A HEMISPHERIC
COMMON TASK HA REQUIRED A REGIONWIDE PLAN.

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COORDINATOR FOR COUNTER-TERRORISM BARBARA BODINE SAID
HAT SUCCESS WILL REQUIRE INTELLIGENCE SHARING, LAW
ENFORCEMENT AND TRAINING. HERE WAS A EED, SHE SAID, O
DEAL WITH ACTIVITIES IN THE RI-BORDER AREA OF ARGENTINA,
BRAZIL AND PARAGUAY.

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HAITI

10. DI TELLA SAID THAT ARGENTINA SUPPORTS THE TWO STEP
PROCESS ON HAITI AND WAS TRYING TO CONVINCE COUNTRIES WHO
WANTED TO CHANGE THE LANGUAGE OF THE UN RESOLUTION. IN
THE END, THE RESOLUTION HAD TO AUTHORIZE THE USE OF
FORCE. HE REAFFIRMED THAT ARGENTINA HAD MADE UP ITS MIND
TO JOIN PHASE ONE, BUT NOTED THAT THIS WOULD REQUIRE
LEGISLATIVE APPROVAL. MENEMOULD SUBMIT A BILL TO
CONGRESS AS SOON AS THE UN RESOLUTION PASSED. HE ASKED
THE ACTING SECRETARY WHAT WE CONSIDERED A DEADLINE FOR
ACTION, EMPHASIZING THAT THE TROOPS CHOSEN WOULD NEED TO
TRAIN WITH THEIR AMERICAN COUNTERPARTS. DI TELLA
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STRESSED THAT ARGENTINA WOULD GIVE THE US FULL SUPPORT.

11. THE ACTING SECRETARY RESPONDED THAT THE TIMING OF AN
INTERVENTION, AND EVEN THE NEED FOR AN INTERVENTION,
DEPENDS ON THE SITUATION ON THE GROUND. WE STILL REMAIN
HOPEFUL, HE SAID, THAT THE UNSC RESOLUTION WILL OBVIATE
THE NEED FOR AN INVASION. WITH INTERNATIONAL BACKING AND
A UN RESOLUTION, WE WOULD BE CAPABLE OF DELIVERING A
CREDIBLE THREAT. THE ACTING SECRETARY SAID THE US WAS
INSPIRED BY ARGENTINA'S EXEMPLARY AND REASSURING
EFFORTS. HE SAID THAT WE WERE DEEPLY GRATIFIED BY
ARGENTINA'S FRIENDSHIP, APPRECIATED ARGENTINA'S FULL
SUPPORT, AND UNDERSTOOD ARGENTINA'S LEGISLATIVE
REQUIREMENTS.

WHITE HELMETS

12. SAYING THAT HE WAS RELUCTANT TO RAISE A SEEMINGLY
INSIGNIFICANT MATTER, DI TELLA TURNED TO PRESIDENT
MENEM'S "WHITE HELMETS INITIATIVE. DESPITE NICE WORDS
FROM SENIOR AMERICAN OFFICIALS, DI TELLA COMPLAINED HE
THE US HAD NOT RESPONDED TO THE "WHITE HELMETS" PROPOSAL.

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13. WHEN ARGENTINA SENT PRESIDENT MENEM'S PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE TO THE US TO EXPLORE THE "WHITE HELMES", HE DISCOVERED THAT THE US HAD PROPOSED ITS OWN COMPETITIVE "DEMOCRACY AND DEVELOPMENT CORPS". HE IDEA, HE SAID, WAS THE SAME. HE ADDED HAITOULD BE DIFFICULT TO EXPLAIN A COMPETITIVE US ROPOSAL O

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PRESIDENT MENEM AND HE WAS CONCERNED ARGENTINA WOULD BECOME A FOOTNOTE TO A US PROJEC.

14. IN RESPONSE, ARA PDAS SKOL SAID THA HE IDEAS DID SEEM TO BE SIMILAR. HE SAID THAT WE SHOULD PROBABLY COMBINE THE PROPOSALS, AND MAKE SURE HA ARGENTINA GOT THE CREDIT FOR PRESIDEN MENEM'S INITIATIVE WITH HE US IN A SUPPORTING ROLE. ALBOTT SAID MHAT HE WOULD NEED TO

BE BETTER INFORMED ON HESE PROJECTS, ADDING THAHE WOULD MAKE SURE HA CREDIT WAS GIVEN WHERE CREDIT WAS DUE. THE ACTING SECRETARY PROMISED TO LOOK INTO THE MATTER PERSONALLY.

15. JOINING FM DI ELLA WERE FM SECRETARY GENERAL CISNEROS, UNDERSECRETARY PFIRTER, AMBASSADOR TO THE US GRANILLO OCAMPO AND DCM NORA JAUREGUIBERRY. JOINING THE ACTING SECREARY WERE ARA PDAS MICHAEL SKOL, COORDINATOR FOR COUNTERTERRORISM BARBARAODINE, ARA/BSC DIRECTOR DON PLANTY, SPECIAL ASSISTANT DEBORAH SCHWARTZ AND DESK OFFICER DON COOKE (NOETAKER).

CHRISTOPHER

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